

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior version, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. - 20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) A method for implementing a service on a management portal of a network to provide a customer at a remote node with the capability to view on a web page a topology map of the network, the method comprising:

- receiving from the remote node a request for the topology map;
- gathering information relevant to the requested topology map;
- generating the requested topology map using the gathered information, wherein the generated topology map is in conformance with a graphics format; and
- transporting the generated topology map to the remote node utilizing a network protocol that enables the generated topology map to be linked into a web page.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

- adding a plurality of symbols to the requested topology map, wherein the symbols comprise at least one of either a network node icon symbol and a connection line symbol.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein transporting the requested topology map comprises:

- associating the requested topology map with an output file stream.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

- displaying on the remote node a display of topology map options for generating the topology map,

- wherein the gathered information is consistent with the customer's selection of topology map options, if selected.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the topology map options comprise one or more of the group of individually-selectable parameters including performance attributes, status, and throughput.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

providing the customer with a display of filtering functions that may be applied to the network to generate the requested topology map,

wherein the gathered information is consistent with the customer's selection of a desired filter function, when selected.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

initializing a graphics driver as a member function of a map view module, wherein the graphics driver is defined by a graphics driver class representing a supplied graphics library; and

generating a system call to a supplied graphics library to generate the requested topology map.

28. (Previously Presented) The of claim 21,

wherein the graphics format comprises at least one of the group comprising portable network graphics ("PNG") format and graphics interchange format ("GIF").

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the network protocol comprises one or more of the group comprising HTTP, TCP/IP, and X.25.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein network topology map generation is one of a plurality of services provided to customers by a service provider of the network.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the network comprises a combination of one or more of a local area network, wide area network wireless network, and internet.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, wherein the service provider configures a portion of the network into partitioned networks; and wherein the requested topology map is for a partitioned network allocated to the customer.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

providing authentication services for the customer by a web server executing on the management portal.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein transporting the requested topology map comprises:

generating a web page with a hypertext link to the location in which the requested topology map is stored;

forwarding the web page over the network to the customer; and

receiving a command to invoke a common gateway interface in the management portal to transport the stored topology map to the customer using the network protocol.

35. (Previously Presented) A computer readable storage medium on which is embedded one or more computer programs implementing a method for providing a service on a management portal of a network to provide a customer at a remote node with the capability to view on a web page a topology map of the network, and comprising a set of instructions for:

receiving from the remote node a request for the topology map;

gathering information relevant to the requested topology map;

generating the requested topology map using the gathered information, wherein the generated topology map is in conformance with a graphics format; and

transporting the generated topology map to the remote node utilizing a network protocol that enables the generated topology map to be linked into a web page.

36. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 35, wherein the one or more computer programs further comprising a set of instructions for:

adding a plurality of symbols to the requested topology map, wherein the symbols comprise at least one of either a network node icon symbol and a connection line symbol.

37. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 35, wherein the one or more computer programs further comprising a set of instructions for:
 associating the requested topology map with an output file stream.

38. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 35, wherein the one or more computer programs further comprising a set of instructions for:
 displaying on the remote node a display of topology map options for generating the topology map,
 wherein the gathered information is consistent with the customer's selection of topology map options, if selected.

39. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 38, wherein the topology map options comprise one or more of the group of individually-selectable parameters including performance attributes, status, and throughput.

40. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 35, wherein the one or more computer programs further comprising a set of instructions for:
 providing the customer with a display of filtering functions that may be applied to the network to generate the requested topology map,
 wherein the gathered information is consistent with the customer's selection of a desired filter function, when selected.

41. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 35, wherein the one or more computer programs further comprising a set of instructions for:
 initializing a graphics driver as a member function of the map view module, wherein the graphics driver is defined by a graphics driver class representing a supplied graphics library; and
 generating a system call to a supplied graphics library to generate the requested topology map.

42. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 35, wherein the graphics format comprises at least one of the group comprising portable network graphics ("PNG") format and graphics interchange format ("GIF").

43. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 35, wherein the network protocol comprises one or more of the group comprising HTTP, TCP/IP, and X.25.

44. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 35, wherein network topology map generation is one of a plurality of services provided to customers by a service provider of the network.

45. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 35, wherein the network comprises a combination of one or more of a local area network, wide area network wireless network, and internet .

46. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 44, wherein the service provider configures a portion of the network into partitioned networks, and wherein the requested topology map is for a partitioned network allocated to the customer.

47. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 35, wherein the one or more computer programs further comprising a set of instructions for:

providing authentication services for the customer by a web server executing on the management portal.

48. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 35, wherein transporting the requested topology map comprises:

generating a web page with a hypertext link to the location in which the requested topology map is stored;

forwarding the web page over the network to the customer; and

receiving a command to invoke a common gateway interface in the management portal to transport the stored topology map to the customer using the network protocol.

49. (Previously Presented) A management portal of a network to provide a customer at a remote node with the capability to view on a web page a topology map of the network, comprising:

at least one processor;

a memory coupled to the at least one processor; and

a topology map module residing in the memory and executed by the at least one processor, wherein the topology map module is configured to receive from the remote node a request for the topology map, gather information relevant to the requested topology map, generate the requested topology map ~~with~~ using the gathered information, wherein the generated topology map is in conformance with a graphics format, and transport the generated topology map to the remote network node utilizing a network protocol that enables the generated topology map to be linked into a web page.

50. (Previously Presented) The management portal of claim 49, wherein the topology map module is further configured to add a plurality of symbols to the requested topology map, wherein the symbols comprise at least one of either a network node icon symbol and a connection line symbol.

51. (Previously Presented) The management portal of claim 49, wherein the topology map module is further configured to associate the requested topology map with an output file stream.

52. (Previously Presented) The management portal of claim 49, wherein the topology map module is further configured to display on the remote node a display of topology map options for generating the topology map, wherein the gathered information is consistent with the customer's selection of topology map options, if selected.

53. (Previously Presented) The management portal of claim 52, wherein the topology map options comprise one or more of the group of individually-selectable parameters including performance attributes, status, and throughput.

54. (Previously Presented) The management portal of claim 49, further comprising:
 providing the customer with a display of filtering functions that may be applied to the network to generate the requested topology map,
 wherein the gathered information is consistent with the customer's selection of a desired filter function, when selected.

55. (Previously Presented) The management portal of claim 49, further comprising:
 initializing a graphics driver as a member function of the map view module, wherein the graphics driver is defined by a graphics driver class representing a supplied graphics library; and
 generating a system call to a supplied graphics library to generate the requested topology map.

56. (Previously Presented) The management portal of claim 49, wherein the graphics format comprises at least one of the group comprising portable network graphics ("PNG") format and graphics interchange format ("GIF").

57. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49, wherein the network protocol comprises one or more of the group comprising HTTP, TCP/IP, and X.25.

58. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49, wherein network topology map generation is one of a plurality of services provided to customers by a service provider.

59. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49, wherein the network comprises a combination of one or more of a local area network, wide area network wireless network, and internet.

60. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 58, wherein the service provider configures a portion of the network into partitioned networks, and wherein the requested topology map is for a partitioned network allocated to the customer.

61. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49, further comprising:

providing authentication services for the customer by a web server executing on the management portal.

62. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49, wherein transporting the requested topology map comprises:

generating a web page with a hypertext link to the location in which the requested topology map is stored;

forwarding the web page over the network to the customer; and

receiving a command to invoke a common gateway interface in the management portal to transport the stored topology map to the customer using the network protocol.